

TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION
REPORT

MARCH 2008

CHAPTER 1.1.1.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Article 1.1.1.1.

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*:

Animal welfare

means the state of animal as regards its attempts to cope with its environment and includes both the extent of failure to cope and the ease or difficulty in coping;

means how an animal is coping with the circumstances in which it lives. An animal is in a good state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behaviour, able to have normal social contact with others of the same species, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear, and distress. Good animal welfare requires disease prevention and veterinary treatment, proper housing, management, nutrition, humane handling and humane slaughter/killing. By scientific convention, “animal welfare” refers to the state of the animal; the treatment that an animal receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, and humane treatment.

Approved abattoir

means premises used for the slaughter of *animals* for human consumption or animal feeding and approved by the *Veterinary Authority* for export purposes.

Area of direct transit

means a special area established in a *transit country*, approved by the relevant *Veterinary Authority* and placed under its immediate control, where *animals* stay for a short time pending further transport to their final destination.

Breeding birds

means birds kept for the purpose of producing *hatching eggs*.

Buffer zone

means a *zone* established **within a free country or free zone** to protect the health status of animals **in a free country or free zone**, from those in a country or *zone* of a different *animal health status*, using measures based on the epidemiology of the *disease* under consideration to prevent spread of the causative pathogenic agent into a free country or *free zone*. These measures may include, but are not limited to, vaccination, movement control and an intensified degree of disease surveillance.

Collecting centre

means a premise or a place where ~~animals for breeding or rearing or animals for slaughter~~ from different ~~establishments or markets~~ are collected together.

Commodity

means live animals, products of animal origin, animal genetic material, ~~intended for human consumption, for animal feeding, for pharmaceutical or surgical use or for agricultural or industrial use, semen, embryos/ova, biological products and pathological material.~~

Compartment

means an animal subpopulation contained in one or more *establishments* under a common biosecurity management system ~~containing an animal subpopulation~~ with a distinct health status with respect to a specific *disease* or specific *diseases* for which required surveillance, control and biosecurity measures have been applied for the purpose of *international trade*.

Flock of birds

~~means any group of birds continuously housed in one building or part of a building separated from other parts of that building by a solid partition and having its own ventilation system, or, in the case of free range birds, any group of birds having common access to one or more buildings or More than one flock of birds may exist in one establishment.~~

Flock

means a number of animals of one kind kept together under human control or a congregation of gregarious wild animals. For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, a flock is usually regarded as an epidemiological unit.

Herd

means a number of animals of one kind kept together under human control or a congregation of gregarious wild animals. For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, a herd is usually regarded as an epidemiological unit.

Infected country

~~means a country in which the absence of the *disease* under consideration has not been demonstrated by the requirements specified in the *Terrestrial Code* being met.~~

Infection

means the ~~presence of the pathogenic agent in the host~~ entry and development or multiplication of an infectious agent in the body of humans or *animals*.

Laying birds

~~means birds kept for the purpose of producing eggs not intended for hatching.~~

Monitoring

means the ~~continuous investigation of~~ intermittent performance and analysis of routine measurements, aimed at detecting changes in the environment or health status of a given population or subpopulation, and its environment, to detect changes in the *prevalence* of a *disease* or characteristics of a pathogenic agent.

Official veterinary control

means that the *Veterinary Services* knows the location of the *animals* and the identity of their owner or responsible keeper and is able to apply appropriate animal health measures, as required.

Official veterinary control (of live animals)

means that the *Veterinary Services* knows the location of the *animals* and the identity of their owner or responsible keeper and is able to apply appropriate animal health measures, as required.

Quarantine station

means a facility **place premises** under the control of the *Veterinary Services* where animals are maintained in isolation with no direct or indirect contact with other animals, to prevent the transmission of specified pathogen(s) while the *animals* are undergoing observation for a specified length of time and, if appropriate, testing and treatment.

Risk

means the likelihood of the occurrence and the likely magnitude of the **biological and economic** consequences of an adverse event to animal or human health in the *importing country* during a specified time period, ~~as a result of a hazard.~~

Risk assessment

means the evaluation of the likelihood and the biological and economic consequences of entry, establishment, ~~or and~~ spread of a pathogenic agent **a hazards** within the territory of an *importing country*.

Sanitary measure

means ~~any~~ a measure ~~applied~~, such as those described in various chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*, designed to protect animal or human health or life within the territory of the Member Country from risks arising from the entry, establishment **or and** spread of a hazard. ~~[Note: A detailed definition of sanitary measure may be found in the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization.]~~

Surveillance

~~means the investigation of a given population or subpopulation to detect the presence of a pathogenic agent or disease; the frequency and type of surveillance will be determined by the epidemiology of the pathogenic agent or disease, and the desired outputs~~ the systematic ongoing collection, collation, and analysis of data **related to animal health** and the timely dissemination of information to those who need to know so that action can be taken.

Veterinary Services

means the governmental and non-governmental organisations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and guidelines in the *Terrestrial Code* in the country. The Veterinary Services are under the overall control and direction of the *Veterinary Authority*. Private sector organisations ~~or veterinarians~~ **or veterinary paraprofessionals** are normally accredited or approved to deliver functions by the *Veterinary Authority*.